10: Hasluck F-5 (1926-1939)1954 EG1 Albania EG1

to keep the structure rigid. When a light roof thatched with straw or more boughs had been nailed on and the inner walls had been plastered with mud, the hut was ready for occupation. Quickly built and costing only the price of the nails, it was often larger and more comfortable than the sitting-room in the adjacent house. A folk-tradition says it was long the handsomest dwelling to which any country Albanian aspired. At lower altitudes in Shpat the huts were flimsier as befitted the milder climate. They were usually made of reeds plastered with cow-dung, which was sufficient to keep out the wind.

Three houses of more splendid type, each containing about forty souls, exist at Dibër—Hysni Dema's at Homesh, Murat Kaloshi's at Kandër, and Cen Elezi's at Sllovë. The owners were rich and most hospitable Moslem notables. As some of the older generation were schooled in Constantinople, they complemented their culture and their position by building establishments of Turkish inspiration, with separate blocks of buildings for the men's apartments (Tk. *selamlik*), stables, granaries, storehouses, kitchens and women's apartments (Tk. *haremlik*). These are all enclosed within a high stone wall with defensive turrets at every weak point, especially near the one and only gateway. The women's apartments are really only a series of bedrooms, one for each married man and his wife and children, and the women, for want of a common sitting-room, sit normally in the kitchen like their poorer sisters. Softer mattresses, richer floor-rugs, and fireplaces in the bedrooms indicate the family's wealth, but European beds, tables and chairs are still barred, partly to avoid rousing envy in more backward neighbours. Cen Elezi's sitting-room was a magnificent oblong, warmed by a log-fire in a huge chimney at the far end from the door and softly lit on both its long sides by a row of short windows at the top of the tall walls; enemies outside had as usual to be prevented from shooting through the outer windows, and the men inside must not be able to look through the inner ones at the women's apartments. In this room a hundred travellers supped and slept every night, going their separate ways at dawn; a chef, working in a kitchen of his own and slaughtering a couple of sheep or an ox per night, provided the unvarying menu of soup, boiled meat, bread and rice pilaff. In their retired kitchen the women catered for themselves and the children, when there was no overflow from the chef's.

9:Megas I, B-5, 4 (no date) 1951 EH1 Greece
Albania EG1

342 Whenever the building material available on the spot is stone, the shepherds build their huts with simple stone walls covered with roughly cut wooden plants.

It is at first sight very difficult, according to Nopcsa, to find any basic difference between a stone-built shepherd's hut and a primitive one-room, stone-wall, permanent house of the Albanians. For the only difference it is that the permanent house is larger, higher and the frame-work of its roof is more strongly built. Its construction has also an immediate relation with the nature of the ground. Namely, the building material locally available will determine whether the house (called «shpi») will be out of stone, or out of wood and of reeds. Thus, in the plain district of the seaside (Mati), where there is no [556] stone at all, even richer inhabitants have to content themselves with houses made of wood, although, for lack of security, stone-built houses are everywhere considered as ideal, since they offer protection both against stray shots and fire.

The Albanian house is then in its simplest form an one-room dwelling, with its entrance either on the side of the roof gable or on the side where the rain water is drained off. But while half-underground shepherd huts have always their entrance on the side of the roof gable, even simpler clay and lime built Albanian houses have it always on the side of rain-water drainage.

Such one-room dwellings of stone and clay constitute the house of poorer classes of the population in the mountainous region NW of Scodra round the river Drilon, the Cem valley and many other regions of Northern Albania. The roof is sloping on two sides and the main pole corresponds to the length of the house, so that its two ends rest upon the short side walls. The roof is usually covered with branches.

In such mountains, where there is a complete lack of forests and therefore difficulty in obtaining timber in order to construct a frame for a large roof, inhabitants are obliged to construct a small stone-built house of a special type, whose geographical spreading out corresponds, according to Cvijic', to the area of the Karst Mountain. According to Haberlandt, this type of house was the characteristic dwelling of ancient Illyrians.

Both men and animals live in the above single-room, although [231] the stable is often separated from the human habitation by a thin, not very high wall made of woven reeds.

In some areas, a special entrance is opened for the animals in